

## FOREWORD

A symposium, “In Support of the Common Defense: Examining Critical Infrastructure Protection in the Public and Private Sector,” was conducted by the Center for Strategic Leadership (CSL), at the Collins Center, United States Army War College on 25 and 26 August 2004. It was co-sponsored by the George Washington University Office of Homeland Security. The immediate purpose of the conference was to capture current, innovative thinking surrounding the issue of critical infrastructure and key resource protection. In turn, the Center would apply those lessons to future studies, wargames and syllabus development addressing this important requirement in the evolving face of homeland security. By extension, however, the War College and George Washington University hoped to contribute to an examination of the surest path to take toward the inherently complex end of Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP).

Critical Infrastructure Protection is among the leading concerns in the country’s quest for homeland security. The Patriot Act of 2002 defines critical infrastructure as those “systems and assets...so vital to the United States that [their] incapacity or destruction...would have a debilitating impact on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination of these matters.”<sup>1</sup> The Administration has declared, therefore, that identifying, prioritizing, and providing for the protection of that infrastructure is an immediate challenge that must be met. For the military, providing for the protection of defense critical infrastructure in the United States is inextricably tied to our ability to project and sustain forces overseas.

While ultimately the responsibility of the Federal government, CIP is a mission that extends through all elements of the Federal government,

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<sup>1</sup>The *U.S.A. Patriot Act*; P.L. 107-56, § 1016(e), 42 U.S.C. 5195(e).

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through State and local governments, and into the private sector. This symposium examined CIP across the spectrum of those sectors. It began with a review of national strategies and policies devoted to various aspects of critical infrastructure protection. Panelists took note of the strengths and weaknesses of those strategies, along with their intent in providing a roadmap for security across all levels of government and through the public and private realms. The forum then examined the effect of that “direction,” and how the policies either enhanced or inhibited efforts to protect infrastructure at the practitioners end. The “practitioner’s perspective” at the forum included presentations by subject matter experts from the Department of Defense, the State of Maryland, and the Defense Industrial Base. Next, the forum considered the unique challenges facing the public-private partnership in CIP, discussing “shared responsibilities” between government and industry, incentives and regulations for the private sector, and information sharing. Finally, the symposium explored how CIP is being scrutinized through modeling and simulation, and other efforts devoted to assessing our current state of readiness.

Each topic was examined in panel presentations, as reflected in the chapters of this compendium. The presentations were followed by moderated question and answer sessions which drew upon the strengths of an audience steeped in the issues, deliberately invited for their ability to both add to and gain from the proceedings. Representing interests from across all three levels of government, the military, and the private sector, these conference participants added richly to the content of the event. Some of the observations which emerged from the audience are also contained in this compendium.

The Center for Strategic Leadership was honored with the host of luminaries that moderated and participated in the panel discussions. Among these were former Secretary of the Army, John O. Marsh; Mr. Frank Cilluffo, the Director of the Homeland Security Policy Institute, George Washington University; Mr. Albert Martinez-Fonts, Director of the Department of Homeland Security’s Private Sector Liaison Office; and Mr. William Bryan, Director for Critical Infrastructure Protection, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense. In addition, we were privileged to host as keynote speakers the Honorable Paul McHale, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense, and

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the Honorable Robert J. Liscouski, Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Protection, Department of Homeland Security. The fact that men of this caliber were able to set aside time in their demanding schedules to address these issues on the campus of the Army War College is indicative of their personal dedication to the security of this country. Likewise, it is reflective of the importance of critical infrastructure protection as a foundational element of our security. We sincerely hope that the deliberations held here will contribute towards enhancing efforts focused on that infrastructure's protection.

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